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Alas, Blair and Brown discuss the energy gap...

as told to Steve Garrett...

Yo! Brown, what're you thinking about then?

Look Tony, I'm thinking…thinking it's about time you moved over and let me busy-body the English for a change.

Oh for goodness sake, Gordon, your time will come. Let's not forget just why we went into politics in the first place…

Cos you were a rubbish lawyer and I was a perpetual student?

Absolutely not. We went into politics so we could finance Scotland, courtesy of the English taxpayer - and into the bargain, emasculate England into a collection of bickering city states. And it's almost mission accomplished, Gordy. Anyway, onto more important matters….. You won't believe what I've just thought of in respect to the experiment.

Oh, **'the experiment'** – codename 'Operation Smoke & Mirrors' to see just how far we can push the English population with ever more bizarre, draconian and unfair treatment before they finally wake up and smell the constitutional coffee - so to speak.

That's the one……. Well I've just thought of a little beauty. If this doesn't get them going, nothing will. Usual bet then?

Yup, if you win then it's another billion into the Scottish Executive's Barnett Formula gravy train….

And if I win then they get an extra 2 billion…..

So it's win-win all round.

OK, well this time I thought I'd announce the building of a whole new generation of Nuclear Power Stations to plug the UK energy gap…..

I'll do the usual rubbish about how imperative it is for the **whole** country, how necessary it is that we **all** take the responsibility for them in a mature and responsible way….

Oh my God Tony, surely you don't mean nuclear power stations are going to be built in God's own country?

What, Scotland? Of course not! And anyway they won't stand for it – and neither will we. I mean, what kind of Scotland would we be leaving our bairns if they couldn't move for nuclear power stations once they go north of Carlisle…..

No, I'll tell you where we're going to build them – in Britain.

Oh, 'Britain' – so that means England, obviously. But won't they mind?

I shouldn't think so, they never have before….

What're a few nuclear power stations next to those million unit housing estates that Prezza has dreamt up? Green and pleasant? Do me a favour, thanks to agent Prescott, it'll soon be grey and smelly-urban…

Tuition fees, foundation hospitals, OAP means-testing, ever-increasing prescription charges, eye test charges, etc, etc …. All nodded through in Westminster, all free in Scotland.

So all we have to do to get these power stations built is alter the planning laws… just in England, obviously.

Obviously…….. And as usual, we can rely on the Scottish Labour brotherhood in Westminster to nod it all through.

So where's all the radioactive waste going to be buried then?

In England, obviously. We need to consider this issue **very** carefully. We must act responsibly – you know, burying this stuff is risky. What we need is a dumb patsy of an MP with an English constituency. We can tell him we'll throw in a new shopping centre as compensation for his constituents – if he keeps quiet.

So to sum up. We need a really thick, pudding of a Labour MP who will do as he's told because he's too stupid to do otherwise?……

Correct in one Gordy! Now we've just got to find him.. Who do we know with an IQ of a lump of wood? Got it!!!! Go and buy me an Extra, Extra, Extra Large cowboy-suit from Harrods – and get me the Right Honourable member for Hull East right away.

English Democrats Party
putting England *first*

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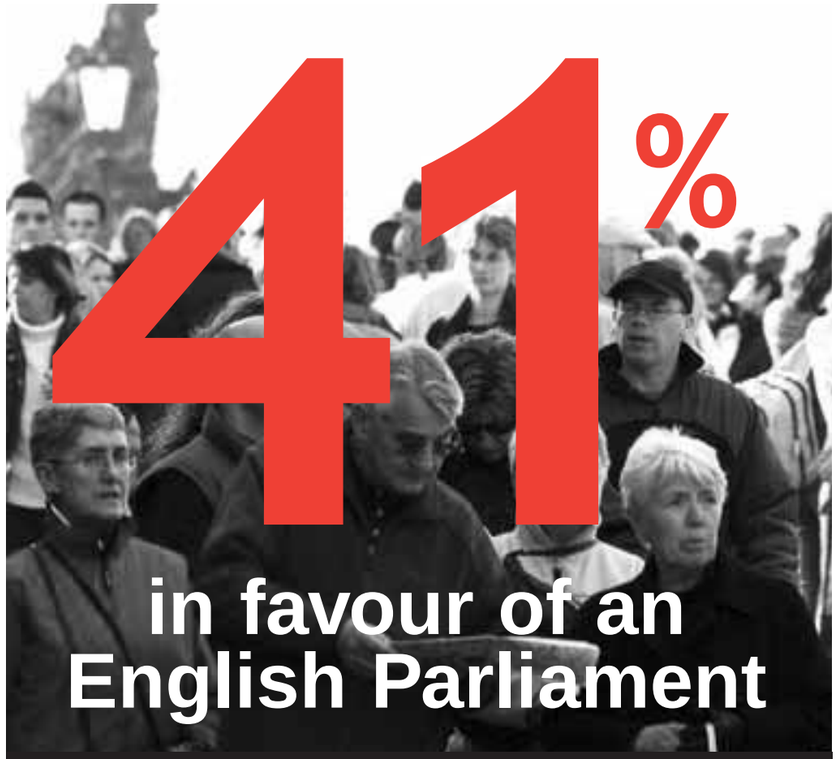

41% in favour of an English Parliament

The English Constitutional Convention announced that repeated Government claims, that there is no public demand for an English Parliament are simply untrue. The latest Ipsos MORI poll, commissioned by the English Constitutional Convention provides credible and impartial evidence that the issue of an English Parliament is not only live but that support for it is at an all time high.

Both Lord Falconer (Lord Chancellor) and Professor Hazell of the self-styled "Constitution Unit" at the University of London, have claimed that there is "no demand" for an English Parliament amongst English voters by constantly referring to 2001 poll evidence (British Attitudes Survey) which has logged interest at just 16% - a poll which has never been re-examined in the light of Scottish and Welsh MPs actively voting on English only matters.

...continued on page 3

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May Election Results

North East Area
Martin Thompson - Newcastle City Council - Fawdon Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	926	30.1%
Conservative Party	125	4.0%
Liberal Democrats	1675	54.4%
English Democrats	**354**	**11.5%**

North West Area
Stephen Gash - City of Carlisle Council - Belah Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	435	24.2%
Conservative Party	976	54.3%
Independent	138	7.7%
English Democrats	**247**	**13.8%**

Yorkshire Area
Peter Davies - Doncaster Metropolitan Council - Finningley Ward
Total 6 Candidates

Labour Party	657	14.3%
Conservative Party	1832	40.0%
Liberal Party	712	15.5%
Green Party	279	6.1%
Independent	128	2.8%
English Democrats	**973**	**21.2%**

Stephen Elliott - Leeds City Council - Adel & Wharfdale Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	941	12.2%
Conservative Party	4128	53.3%
Liberal Democrats	2085	27.0%
English Democrats	**563**	**7.3%**

Paul McEnhill - Kirklees Metropolitan Borough - Denby Dale Ward
Total 6 Candidates

Labour Party	1391	26.5%
Conservative Party	2012	38.4%
Liberal Democrats	558	10.6%
Green Party	414	7.8%
BNP	434	8.2%
English Democrats	**436**	**8.3%**

East Midlands Area
NONE

West Midlands Area
NONE

East England - East Anglia Area
Nick Capp - Three Rivers - Penn Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	68	7.0%
Conservative Party	264	26.8%
Liberal Democrats	550	56.0%
English Democrats	**101**	**10.2%**

Kim Gandy - Basildon District Council - Crouch Vale Ward
Total 5 Candidates

Labour Party	240	10.5%
Conservative Party	52	6.6%
Liberal Democrats	1394	60.8%
BNP	310	13.5%
English Democrats	**198**	**8.6%**

Robin Tilbrook - Epping Forest District Council - Chipping Ongar, Greenstead & Marden Ash Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	102	6.8%
Conservative Party	560	37.3%
Liberal Democrats	590	39.3%
English Democrats	**250**	**16.6%**

Richard Aitkins - Stevenage Borough Council - Pin Green Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Labour Party	933	52.4%
Conservative Party	389	21.4%
Liberal Democrats	191	10.7%
English Democrats	**274**	**15.4%**

London Area
Janus Polencuse - London Borough of Lambeth - Oval Ward
Total 6 Candidates

Labour Party	777	23.5%
Conservative Party	376	11.4%
Liberal Democrats	1088	32.9%
Green Party	397	12.0%
Local Education Action by Parents	183	5.5%
English Democrats	**108**	**3.7%**

John Fitzpatrick - London Borough of Bexley - East Wickham Ward
Total 6 Candidates

Labour Party	876	32.5 %
Conservative Party	1312	21.7 %
Liberal Democrats	616	15.3%
UKIP	236	5.9%
BNP	601	14.9%
English Democrats	**392**	**9.7%**

South East Area
George Herbert - Havant Borough Council - Bedhampton Ward
Total 5 Candidates

Labour Party	178	6.2%
Conservative Party	1321	46.0%
Liberal Democrats	1081	37.7%
Green Party	96	3.3%
English Democrats	**190**	**6.6%**

David Knight - Portsmouth City Council - Copnor Ward
Total 5 Candidates

Labour Party	588	18.6%
Conservative Party	1470	46.4%
Liberal Democrats	537	17.0%
Green Party	136	4.3%
English Democrats	**435**	**13.7%**

Harold Green - Reigate & Banstead Borough Council - Tattenhams Ward
Total 3 Candidates

Conservative Party	647	31.9%
Tattenhams Residents Association	1147	56.6%
English Democrats	**231**	**11.4%**

Glenn Starling - Reigate & Bastead Borough Council - Kingswood with Burgh Heath Ward
Total 4 Candidates

Conservative Party	1299	68.7%
Liberal Democrats	301	15.9%
UKIP	160	8.4%
English Democrats	**129**	**6.8%**

South West Area
Mike Blundell - Bristol City Council - Southmead Ward
Total 5 Candidates

Labour Party	1039	45.81%
Conservative Party	465	20.5%
Liberal Party	414	18.2%
Green Party	129	5.7%
English Democrats	**221**	**9.7%**

On the Stump with Steve Gash

When I stood in the Carlisle City Council elections on the 4th May the event attracted a fair amount of attention in the local media. Although the EDP had contested both the 2005 General election and the 2004 European elections in Cumbria, no one had stood in Carlisle itself before, so I was covering new ground.

Ultimately I came third, polling 13.8% of the vote, described as "creditable" in the local paper.

I won't deny I was disappointed at not beating Labour, but Blair's "England Eradication" party did not lose a single seat in Carlisle, although it came close in some wards. Across the whole of the North of England, Labour's vote perplexingly held up.

However, no party could really claim victory in elections that commanded an average turnout of voters below 40%. Democracy was the real loser.

The low turnout reflected, not a sense of apathy often reported in the national media, but more a sense of disillusionment with the whole political process, which I came across when talking to people.

"You won't change anything", I often heard. I reminded people, that if they wanted change, they needed to change their votes from the so-called mainstream parties, which have no intention of changing things for the better in England, because none of them really care about England.

"I'll be wasting my vote if I vote for you" was something I heard from a few people. I suggested a vote for any party other than the EDP was a wasted vote for England.

Regionalisation and public service mergers were two of the main causes of anger, I found, because people felt they were losing control of their own country. Cumbrian folk regard themselves as being from Cumberland and Westmorland. I've not heard anyone say that he or she is a "North Westerner". To do so would probably result in a request for the person to attend hospital, provided they could find one still open.

This sense of county identity is mirrored across England. For example, Rutland now officially exists again due to public pressure. Residents in North Lincolnshire are pushing to be de-merged from the Yorkshire and Humber region (perhaps the most stunningly stupid region devised; being divided by one of the largest natural boundaries in Europe, the Humber estuary).

Another bone of contention was immigration, not from around the world, but from new European countries. "We are exporting factories to Eastern Europe, while importing workers from there", was what one person said to me concerning the impending closure looming over Carlisle, of the Pirelli factory. This problem has to be tackled very quickly instead of being avoided, or worse applauded, by our business leaders and politicians.

Water and immigration are similar in that each is a good and indeed vital thing, unless either arrives in the form of a flood. After the devastating floods of January 2005, Carlisle people know this better than most.

All in all I found support for an English Parliament and the EDP encouragingly high in Carlisle and across Cumbria generally. The big task is converting verbal support into votes in next year's elections.

Continued from the front cover...

To make a valid comparison, the exact wording found in the British Attitude Survey was repeated in exactly the same form as the Government's original poll, with the new poll finding that support for an English Parliament has now risen to 27%. This is an 11% increase in support in only five years.

However, the implication of devolution on the UK Parliament is unclear to many electors. A second question was posed to respondents, which provided some background information explaining how Scottish and Welsh MPs were able to vote on English matters but that English MPs were denied a reciprocal right. The second question again requested support for an English Parliament and on this question 41% of respondents confirmed their support.

These results are highly significant as they show a marked shift towards support for an English Parliament within a federal UK. These levels of support can be contrasted with the results in the Welsh Assembly Referendum, which attracted the votes of a mere 25.3% of their electorate, and with those of the Scottish Parliament Referendum, in which 44% of their electorate voted for the Holyrood Parliament. In those countries these referenda occurred after long campaigns and also after much publicity. This new result in England is, by contrast, without any equivalent publicity.

English Democrats are delighted that there is now significant new evidence confirming that the English are very interested in an English Parliament and in having the democratic deficit properly and effectively resolved and we are delighted to support the work of the English Constitutional Convention in encouraging all politicians and interested parties to join together and embark on serious public dialogue through the English Constitutional Convention, so that English devolution can move forward with the support and involvement from English electors.

English Constitutional Convention news and updates can be found at: www.englishconstitutionalconvention.com

England *forward* not back

I paraphrase my title from the New Labour slogan which speaks of "Britain"!

The English Democrats are unique in politics today. We are the party which is seeking a radical realignment in English politics because of the astonishing fact that it seems that nothing less will be needed to compel the British political establishment to be fair to England, Englishness and to all the people of England!

If we are going to achieve such an historic change, and I now think that we could, we do need to build as broad a coalition as possible, within our party, of all those who share our vision. It is in this sense that the English Democrats proudly aim to live up to our slogan:- "Not left, not right, just English!"

As the membership of the English Democrats grows we now have members who include former members of the Socialist Worker Party, the Greens, Labour, Liberal Democrats, BNP, Conservatives, UKIP and also of no previous party. All these members are people who have realised that the older vision of the unitary government of Britain is, in the words of the leading Welsh, Conservative Federalist, David Melding AM:- "As dead as Queen Anne"! They are also people who are ready to work together to build a party dedicated to campaigning for a parliament for England and for England's National regeneration.

Recent opinion polls now show that a party standing on our platform could achieve spectacular electoral success provided that it is seen by voters as "credible".

The English Democrats must therefore now work to achieve electoral credibility and welcome all those who are ready to throw off their former political allegiances to work as English Democrats for the benefit of England *(i.e. Pro Patria Anglorum!)*.

Robin Tilbrook
Chairman
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Dear Chancellor...

Leonard Cresswell from Hammersmith has been corresponding on a regular basis to Mr. Brown, our prudent Chancellor, his letter is typical of the concerns many people have expressed to the Editor, so I include his longer than usual letter on behalf of all those who wanted to express similar sentiments:

A Letter to a "prudent" Chancellor

I am writing to you in regard to a recent news item on the radio (Sunday 9th April 06), in which it was stated that you had journeyed to Africa in order to donate eight Billion Pounds to African schools, to purchase books for African schoolchildren, a very laudable gesture. … isn't it the job of the Foreign Secretary to take part in these overseas missions, or don't you trust the Foreign Secretary since his gaffe in shaking hands with the racist dictator Mugabe?

Was it a wise decision to bestow this largesse so soon after your government had made the decision to wipe out Africa's so called "third world debt"? It seems to me and many others in this country that constantly giving aid to Africa, is akin to throwing it into a bottomless pit.

Whilst charity is very commendable, we should remember the old saying "charity begins at home". Just think to yourself, how well spent that money could have been on our ailing NHS, or to put it to more police on the street to tackle the growing crime rate, or to put it into pensions or residential care for our elderly here in England.

I am compelled to state that for a Chancellor of the Exchequer who is so fond of the word "prudent" you seem very generous with money, unfortunately your generosity does not seem to extend to English society and the English taxpayer, which need I remind you, is where the vast majority of this money comes from.
As you are aware we English are already funding the Scots with free residential care for 'their' elderly, free prescriptions, free university courses, unlike poor English students who have to take out loans, and the availability of essential medicines such as Herceptin, which we in England cannot get. The vast majority of these freebies obtained by Scotland are courtesy of the Barnett Formula, in a speech last year Lord Joel Barnett stated "I didn't create this formula to give Scotland an advantage over the rest of Britain".

SO, the next time you want to generously throw money around on a well deserved cause I can tell you of one. It's a small country where the education system is failing, where the health system is collapsing, a place where crime is so out of control in cities people are afraid to go out at night, a place a citizen is not allowed to express national pride, or take part in national celebrations for fear of imprisonment or castigation by the legal system. That place is called "England", and the reason it is in such a state is because you and your colleagues that pose as a government have simply plundered our country's finances and resources in your avaricious scramble to jump on the gravy train.

It would bode you and your colleagues well, to remember that you were elected by the people to serve them and the nation, not to treat our finances as your own personal honeypot. The man who is generous with other people's money is not a generous man. I look forward to your responses to my comments and hope that you can give me some indication as to when you will scrap the Barnett Formula?

Yours sincerely,
Leonard Cresswell

English Youth

a forgotten majority?

Sean Varnham a student from Chatham made contact with the English Democrats wanting to know how he and some friends might be able to get involved with English politics. Still at school and studying for his GCSEs he was sufficiently moved to want to become actively involved. The EDP have offered Sean the opportunity to design the layout for a Youth Site within the English Democrats main website as a "summer project". ***Here, in Sean's own words is why he wants to be involved in the future direction of his country.***

As a teenager, I feel that being English is more honourable than being 'British' because for hundreds of years the English people were proud of their English nationality and held it with respect, even up to the Mid-20th Century and the second World War the majority of the army fought not for Britain, but for England.

I think that the educational system shouldn't deny that the English exist not only is the National Curriculum in England unique for England and is separate from the other countries in the United Kingdom, but they should teach relevant history lessons about the English, not just focus on the "British". The English exist too!

Like many teenagers in a "multicultural" England I feel that "multiculturalism" is imploding my English identity and that it just isn't right that foreign people can come into a nation and destroy our national identity in less than 100 years! If an Englishman or woman went to another nation they would be expected to live under the rules and culture of that nation, but with "Britain" I feel that there is no unique culture left for people moving in to live by. Our "English" culture has been torn apart by the Government (Labour and the other main parties), leaving incomers to live by their own culture, using the excuse that freedom of religion means people can do as they please.

It doesn't seem as if English people have a voice anymore, we can't seem to vote on whether we want to have an English Parliament, or on anything to do with devolution, and it feels as if we just don't count. Our laws are not even passed by our own parliament anymore as everything seems to be decided in Europe, people are just feeling very powerless and uninvolved.

I feel that politics today, is in a mess. The Labour party, I personally feel, is the most incompetent, lying, sleazy and disorganised party in Parliament! I contacted the English Democrats because I had concerns about the imposition of "Britishness" lessons in English schools (courtesy of the votes from Welsh and Scottish MPs) and I hope that the EDP will help me fight against these lessons.

The young are treated as a nuisance, as thugs and "hoodies", when the root of much of the problem is boredom and the lack of facilities for teenagers. As a teenager I feel our local area just leaves teenagers to "drift", politicians seem oblivious to the fact that society has "collapsed"and ASBOs far from being a cure for anti-social behaviour have become a badge of "pride". We need a new party and a new approach, a party that will let the people speak and a party that will rebuild our society, I don't believe any of the parties currently have the will or the ability to relate to the English, but I do believe the English Democrats have made a really good start in trying to change things.

From Left to Right; Mike Russell, Medway (Kent) Chairman; Leo Brookes, London Committee; Sean Varnham; Steven Uncles, South East Area Chairman.

Lee Ingram, an EDP Member, 35, shares parenting and lives with his fiancée on a neglected council estate in Braunston, where some residents have abandoned hope of a brighter future. Lee is part of the growing movement of people who understand that the English Democrats are truly the voice of the people of this country and one he and others can actively be involved with to change local politics and his estate.

Why politics rings hollow *ON COUNCIL ESTATES...*

by Lee Ingram

As a resident from what was one of the most run down under-funded Council estates in England, it is very hard to trust a politician or politics in general due to seeing the effects of what MPs have done for myself and my area. There is a negative view of politics on many Council estates like this. Although my Council estate has been given a make-over by government funding due to it being one of the most run down in England it now only has facilities that every estate should have any way.

So how did I become involved with the EDP then with all this lost trust in politics? Well for once I can see that this political force is in touch with all the people of England and genuinely wants to help all the people of England. I have spoken to the leader – Robin Tilbrook and he talks on my level and this is without him having to throw in much of the party's policies at all, we talked just as I would, in a pub, with a friend, resolving our country's problems over a pint, Robin and the EDP of course have the same concerns that many if not all council estate residents have and he also educated me on deeper concerns i.e. an English Parliament, something which our Government and other parties have not for some reason educated the public about. Don't get me wrong, this is no straightforward and easy choice for me, I'm from a place where men in suits are not trusted! This is how our souls have been destroyed by this government and the previous Government, we are left sceptical, paranoid and very angry with low morale, so it's not an easy conscience ride for the likes of me joining a party, but when I get my sceptical pangs and am reminded of my background and the effects of this Government's ill doing and I hear that voice at the back of my head saying that politics is not to be trusted no matter what politics it is, I can't help coming to my senses and seeing that this is for once *politics with a difference.* It's common sense politics talking to people on all levels, to me this is the real awakening for England and all those who regard themselves English! This is the confidence and trust that has now been restored in me by real people who are genuinely concerned for the English nation and the EDP are in touch with real people on all levels. No matter what your background and your loss of trust in politics, if you feel truly English and quite passionate about this, then this party is your place and a comfortable one too! And believe me it's not often you would usually hear that quote from a council estate resident these days.

I feel the EDP is for all the people of England and is definitely for me. I feel saved and that England can also be saved.

Braunston, Northamptonshire.

Thanks and appreciation

Thanks to Martin Thompson, Stephen Gash, Peter Davies, Stephen Elliott, Paul McEnhill, George Herbert, David Knight, Harold Green, Glenn Starling, Mike Blundell, Nick Capp, Kim Gandy, Robin Tilbrook, Richard Aitkins, Janus Polenceus and John Fitzpatrick for making the effort to stand as councillors in the May elections. Thanks also goes to Steve Uncles who not only stood as a candidate in Bromley, but also stood as a candidate in Dartford and to the back-up support who came to Bromley, especially to Leo Brookes London Committee and his efforts on the megaphone which were most appreciated. Thanks to Sean Varnham a youngster who came along to help with canvassing and is working on the Youth Site for the EDP. Thanks to Steve Garrett for his work on website design and the EV production. Billy for the smooth transition to a new server for the party website, Alan England for taking on literature work and Nick Capp for his work on policy development. Special thanks for Eileen and Geoff Graham for their hospitality in Cumbria and for the hard leg-work in organizing local public meetings and to the kind patriots who made their venues available to us at no charge. Also Stephen Gash who worked so hard during the World Cup to get people interested in their country! Thanks to the NC, County Chairmen, Susan Hartland, Scilla Cullen (CEP) and all those who have sent in news clippings, regular e-mail reports, useful suggestions and kind donations – we are very grateful to our friends and supporters for making the EDP what it is – your party. We are indebted as ever, thank you!

National Council of the English Democrats

Mummy dear...

Any women out there who want to describe the sometimes tortuous relationship you have with your mother?

Claire Minns, who is married to one of our supporters, is undertaking research into mother and daughter relationships for a book via her website at ***www.mummydear.com***
Claire writes, "I think you'll find the 'examples' pages interesting and the site very easy to navigate. The aim is to get women to write about their relationship with their mother or daughter. All 'submissions' are anonymous - when they arrive on my computer it just says 'Message from web'. I would be grateful for your help so do please take a look and pass it on!"

If you would like to help contact the website.

England & Scotland unite

The Scottish Independence movement is marching on Holyrood on the 30th September and would be pleased if there are English Nationalists who would like to come and join them in their demonstration for national independence. English Democrats believe that the divisive and dissmissive approach to national self-determination by the three main parties should be exposed and the best way to do this is to join forces with our opposite numbers in Scotland and Wales, and this invitation is one of the first signs that the nationalist movements are now moving towards the unified aims of national independence and mean to work together to achieve it. Ed Abrams is organising the EDP attendance and can be contacted via the party website or by phoning **0870 062 4555** and asking Ed to contact you. (The party number is NOT a premium rate number, it is national rate).

ENGLISH PARLIAMENT GOES NATIONAL

The English Democrats have been amazed at the fantastic coverage of the West Lothian Question which has hardly been off the pages of newspapers since the beginning of the year. Lord Baker's Bill was the catalyst to a flurry of activity as the usual fudge, bluster and denials came out of the rotting woodwork of Westminster. First it was denials from Lord Falconer, burbling soup from yet another "Ivy" slap-up dinner that in his, considered opinion, he never saw any prospect of an English Parliament, not now not ever! Then the self-styled Constitution Unit headed up by a totally anonymous Professor Hazell of University College London, claimed that following masses of government funding, there was no "demand" for an English Parliament, and as such there wouldn't be one!

Then we heard Blair at Question Time dismiss any suggestion that we could have "two classes" of MP as preposterous, neatly side-stepping the fact we already have "two classes of MP", the ones that can make policy in Scotland and Wales and the ones that can't!! Our Chairman Robin Tilbrook found himself on BBC Newsnight manfully putting the obvious to the assembled craven guests, the "rabbit in the headlights" Simon Hughes, still not quite willing to nail his colours to the English Parliament mast, although alluding to it wherever he appeared in public. The Conservatives, not having the courage of their convictions, prefering the English Votes on English Measures fudge, not only completely unworkable, but a direct denial of England's right to a national parliament and the continued denial of the right to vote on England's devolutionary settlement, the Scots still smug at their two bites of the cherry and (understandably) reluctant to give up even a Scottish oat to England's complaints.

Our Vice Chairman Christine Constable appeared on the BBC's "Union Jack Banner for Britain Programme" giving a robust defence on the rights of the English to celebrate their Englishness. At the last count (early July) there were over 135 newspaper articles on the subject of an English Parliament - and it is now very firmly on the Government's agenda. Just in case they want to ignore it, we announce the first of a number of motorway hoardings which will become a permanent reminder that England wants an English Parliament NOW!

On the M56, eastbound, near Helsby, Cheshire.

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ETHNIC ENGLISHNESS

by Tony Linsell - writer, publisher, English Nationalist

I was surprised that no one responded to the piece by Matthew Aldridge, Englishness …in the eye of the beholder? Autumn 2005 edition of The English Voice. Perhaps, like me, others thought someone else was bound to challenge him.

Matthew Aldridge adopts the usual approach of progressives in that he assumes that all decent and right thinking (PC) people share his somewhat confused and ultra-inclusive notions of Englishness – it is clear that he believes anyone who has a different view must be rightwing and extremist.

After an appeal to emotion and authority (Trevor Phillips and the Queen) rather than any discernable rational argument, Matthew urges members of the EDP to promote a more inclusive and plural English identity. It seems that he is one of those who would agree with the progressive slogan, 'Whatever your ethnicity you can be English if you want to be.' He seems to suggest that Englishness has such little substance that anyone can identify themselves, or someone else, as English – as if it is a matter of personal choice – or even whim.

In my view, an ethnic group is an extended family – a group of people who share an ancestry, history and culture. Which means that they share a language and a unique mix of values and perceptions. They have a way of life (a mix of customs, attitudes, and beliefs) that is expressed in such things as architecture, clothing, dance, song, and the food they eat and the way they cook it. Perhaps the most important aspect of ethnicity is that it is an instinctive community of the mind, a place where no foreigner can go. Thus when we are asked what are the characteristics of English ethnicity – or 'what does it mean to be English?' - we need only reply that it is indefinable - there are no firm boundaries and no columns of tick-boxes.

In addition to the above, membership of an ethnic group is dependent upon acceptance of the individual by the group. If I am a Francophile, speak French and live in France it does not mean that the French will accept me as one of them. If I go to live in Scotland, drink whisky, wear a kilt, and eat porridge and haggis it's probable that I will still be called an English bastard. When, as often happens, someone tells me that they have an Italian / Asian / Jamaican / or whatever friend who is in many ways more English than the English and ought to be accepted as English, I simply reply that if he was English he would not be described as an Italian / Asian / Jamaican / or whatever friend, and there would be no need to make a case for him because he would be accepted as part of the English community and he would naturally feel that he belonged. Likewise I am often asked, "But surely Ian Wright is English? He supports the England team and says he is English." No he is not a member of the ethnic-English community. His communal history is not that of the English community and it is probable that his ancestors have played no part in English history except perhaps as outsiders. Put simply, his origins and family history are not in England or the English community. This does not mean that I do not respect him, like him, and think he was a great footballer.

It might surprise Matthew Aldridge but in English law an ethnic group is defined in much the same way as I have above. The House of Lords, in Mandla v Lee, defined an ethnic group in the following way:

An ethnic group is a group that regards itself or is regarded by others as a distinct community by virtue of certain characteristics that will help to distinguish the group from the surrounding community. Two of these characteristics are essential:

a) a long shared history, of which the group is conscious as distinguishing it from other groups, and the memory of which it keeps alive; and

b) a cultural tradition of its own, including family and social customs and manners, often but not necessarily associated with religious observance.

Other relevant characteristics (one or more of which will commonly be found) are:

c) either a common geographical origin or descent from a small number of common ancestors;

d) a common language, not necessarily peculiar to the group;

e) a common literature peculiar to the group;

f) a common religion different from that of neighbouring groups or from the general community surrounding it; and

g) being a minority or being an oppressed or a dominant group within a larger community. Both a conquered people (say, the inhabitants of England shortly after the Norman conquest) and their conquerors might be ethnic groups.

It can be seen from the above that the groups mentioned on ethnic monitoring forms are mostly quasi-ethnic groups such as Asian, Black, and White. How can any of these pseudo-racial categories be viewed as ethnic groups when each of them contains real ethnic groups which have very little in common? All becomes clear when census and ethnic monitoring forms are seen as political and ideological tools. The quasi-ethnic groups have been invented by the race relations industry so as to give favoured groups the privileges granted to ethnic groups – such as the right to discriminate and gain access to government funding. The census form is important because it serves as a model for the ethnic monitoring forms used by businesses, government departments, and other organisations. Little if any statistical information is collected about ethnic groups that are not included on ethnic monitoring forms. One of the consequences of this is that excluded groups become invisible to officialdom. In short, it is difficult for those groups to demonstrate need and discrimination, or to demand resource allocation and policies which tackle that need and discrimination. It is no accident that the ethnic-English are an excluded group.

The Good News

The 2011 census form for Scotland is to have an ethnic-English tick-box but until very recently the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has resisted the idea of doing the same for England. They announced earlier this year that on the next census form for England respondents would be able to identify themselves as English. This misled many (as it was probably meant to) because the intention was not to include the 'English' tick-box under, 'What is your ethnicity' but to ask a separate question, 'What do you consider your national identity to be'. The tick-box options being 'English', 'Scottish', 'Welsh', with 'Other – write in'. This question and the tick-box options seemed designed to meet the wishes of people like Matthew Aldridge by encouraging people who live in England to identify themselves as English. In other words, it is possible for a Somali or Kurd or Palestinian or whoever to retain their 'ethnic identity' and, for whatever reason, choose to adopt an English 'national identity'.

After lengthy correspondence with ONS it seems that they 'might' also put an 'English' tick-box under the ethnicity question but we will not know for sure until they publish the 2007 Test Census for England on their website in September. I have also been in lengthy correspondence with the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) and you might be surprised to learn that they support the idea of an ethnic-English tick-box. Further, CRE has recently recommended (on its website) that organisations include an ethnic-English tick-box on their ethnic monitoring forms. I feel that we are making real progress and that official recognition of an English ethnic group will have very important consequences.

In addition to claiming an English 'national identity'(inclusive) and 'ethnic identity' (exclusive) the English are one of the few groups recognised in law (for the purposes of the Race Relations Act 1976) as a 'racial group' (exclusive) There are therefore three English identities. If Matthew wants to assert and promote an inclusive English identity based on where he lives or was born he is free to do so. I am also free to assert and promote my English ethnicity and take proper advantage of the fact that I belong to a recognised racial group. Those who mock or otherwise insult me and others for asserting our identity could be guilty of racial harassment. No I am not a right-wing extremist, merely an unhyphenated Englishman who wants equal treatment with the members of other ethnic groups.

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My Road to English Nationalism

Alan England, NC Member

For much of my life I gave little thought to whether I was English rather than British, or vice versa. My general attitude was that I was an Englishman living in Britain. I regarded being British (rather than English) as the convenient, catch-all label which government in its various guises accorded equally to the English, the Scots and the Welsh. It did cross my mind, from time to time, how little the name England was actually used, but I attributed that thought to the fact of it being my surname, and I assumed that it would occur to few others to think the same.

Almost thirty years ago I became quite active as a trade unionist. I was aware that many 'trade union leaders' (ie paid officials) were Scottish and, to be frank, I did not question this phenomenon. I was aware that there was a Scottish Labour Party, a Scottish TUC, a Welsh Labour Party, a Welsh TUC and so on, but I assumed that this was because, being small nations, they needed the additional assurance and safeguards of having their own institutions.

As time elapsed, I became even more aware that new, paid officials in my own trade union were predominantly Scottish. Clearly it was advantageous to be a Scot when applying for such posts! This characteristic extended to elected officers and, beyond that, to other trade unions in the public sector. Most general secretaries, for example, were Scottish and, very often, so also were union national presidents.

I think it was the conduct of Scottish trade union activists (ie trade union members, rather than the paid officials) of my union which increasingly impinged on my consciousness. For example, it was the practice of Scottish delegates to annual delegate conferences to have what they designated as the "Scottish Hotel" and, mark you, these were invariably hotels in England i.e. Blackpool, Bournemouth, Brighton, and Eastbourne. This meant that the relevant hotel would be monopolised by Scots for a week and, not only allowed them to associate together as compatriots, but to largely control access and thereby to exclude any unwanted English delegates.

The president and the general secretary were both Scots. I was elected to the grandly named National Executive Council in 1986-1988 and 1989-1991. In 1990, the guest speaker was a Gordon Brown MP, deputy to the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, John Smith. At no time during his visit were non-Scots allowed near Brown. He was surrounded and monopolised by Scots. Moreover, although I was on the top table slightly behind Brown to his right, the photo published in the union's magazine of Brown addressing delegates was carefully cropped to exclude *persona non grata* English me!

The single event which really disgusted me was a 'debate' at the 1992 Annual Conference which sought to associate my union with the campaign for a Scottish parliament. The union president (a Scot, of course!) chaired the proceedings and he indulged the Conference allowing Scottish speaker after speaker to the rostrum to bellow and make inflammatory speeches in favour of the resolution. In these speeches, the government was heavily criticised (and, by implication, the English) for not having already acceded to demands for a Scottish parliament. There was an air of great excitement, pandemonium, spiced with an air of hostility to English delegates! I remember thinking at the time, this must be how the Nuremberg Rallies felt with all the shouting and cheering!

In 1997, I was somewhat relieved that the Conservatives lost the General Election. By March 2000, the alienation I felt towards the Labour Party was so great that I allowed my membership to lapse. I felt so disregarded, so unrepresented by that political party that I did not even wish to acknowledge it any further by actually resigning. It was not until 2005 that I found my way to the warm hearth of the English Democrats Party where I feel more at home politically than I have for years!

Pushing at the Open Door

Michael Cassidy, NC Member

After being in UKIP for many years, and playing a leading role in the creation of the branch structure in Yorkshire for that party, as well as putting the candidates in place for the 2001 general election - and I stood myself as well - I decided to join the EDP in 2004.

I have always believed that England was where the support for the policies I believed in was, and had found UKIP's determination to pursue a UK-wide stance increasingly unsustainable. I also took issue with UKIP's quiet adherence to political correctness.

It is England that is Eurosceptic and not Scotland or Wales. The devolution of power to Scotland and Wales was a great injustice that UKIP did not care one jot about.
I noticed immediately the launch of the English Democrats Party and was sympathetic to the party's stance from the outset.

Furthermore, I had become increasingly disenchanted with the single-issue status of UKIP. Prior to UKIP I had campaigned for the Referendum Party. Whatever faults UKIP might have, the Referendum Party was well run. Nevertheless, the Referendum Party, although it was a great success in that it forced the other political parties to commit to a referendum on joining the single currency, it was a failure electorally. The single issue of the EU, no matter how important, was insufficient to draw in the critical mass of voter support necessary to win seats in the Westminster parliament. Likewise, UKIP has failed to make any headway in winning seats in Westminster - without which it will remain unable to extricate the UK from the EU.

The English Democrats have a more balanced electoral ticket and by combining the English issue and the EU issue - as well as other key policies such as immigration - are far more likely to win the support of the English people. I have found that the response of voters on the doorstep in the various election campaigns I have fought in for the English Democrats, confirms my view. We are pushing at an open door and these are still early days in the development of the party.

I am satisfied that my move to the English Democrats was the right choice.

Justice for England

Demanding an English Parliament, democracy and equality

justiceforengland.com

The Justice for England Campaign has been set up to rally the People of England.

The main aims are
1) To make people aware of the democratic injustices brought about by this and past governments that have turned the people who live and work in England into second class citizens within the UK.
2) To be inclusive, we don't want to be seen to be for or against any sect, religion or ethnic group.
3) To negate the bad publicity that the St George's flag has in the eyes of some members of the public and by using the ribbon to allow them to come on board and also to use the ribbon as a stepping stone to take back the flag from the far right.
4) To promote discussion in the wider communities of England, and indeed the UK.
5) To pay for press coverage by advertising the injustices and the campaign when funds will allow.

We realise that although awareness is growing there is still a majority of people in England who do not know about regional assemblies, the West Lothian Question, The Barnett Formula etc. By promoting this campaign we hope that by the next round of elections, the EDP candidates will be preaching to the converted. We also plan to donate profits to further the cause of English nationalism.

We would like to thank the EDP members for their support and hope that they will continue to support us in the future.

SCRAPPING THE DEVOLUTION DOGS

Steve Gash, NC Member

In many ways I could describe myself as a typical English person when it comes to politics; "conservative with a small c". I first became interested in British politics during the late 1960s when Harold Wilson's Labour Government had wreaked its worst upon Britain with its thoughtless nationalisation programme. This and the growth in power of trades unions and their constant war with British industry, just to satisfy the political dogma of union leaders, turned me away from Labour permanently.

The Wilson/Heath/Wilson/Callaghan era I consider the most damaging in British post-war history and Margaret Thatcher was its inevitable outcome. I still consider Ted Heath the worst Prime Minister, although Blair has about caught up.

Like many people I never considered joining a political party and eschewed extreme parties, but joined the Social Democratic Party, believing it to be what Britain needed at the time. Opposing the Liberal "takeover" disguised as a merger, I left in 1988.

Since then I have voted for anybody except the mainstream and extreme parties.

Blair's devolution debacle and all of the Westminster parties' unwillingness to listen to English people compelled me to join the Campaign for an English Parliament. However, I soon realised that the English Democrats Party provided the sharpest teeth in the catfight for England's survival. My instinct has been proved right and the EDP is undoubtedly the English lion scrapping the devolution dogs – and winning. England's home-rule is nigh.

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Power for the people

by Paul Rogan

On the streets in West Yorkshire, the Blair Government is unpopular; the Cameron Tories vote is down dramatically. People feel less inclined to go to vote nationally, let alone locally.
On the doorstep, there is little variation in the views people express: -
"Does it matter, there's no common sense in politics."
"They're OK with their fat pensions and lavish expenses, we find it harder to make ends meet."
" Thou'll get nowt good owta them, they're all't same."

All the facts and figures can be laid out and explained in detail. Local politicians have endless lists of how this country is highly taxed and yet denied more services at every budget and who is at fault. Do people really need to know all this thread to the needle? Not really, they know things are not good and look like getting worse.

The problem is, who do they turn to? Who do voters trust to try and make a difference? Can anybody really make a difference?

Of course, we English Democrats must say "YES! We can make a difference."

We believe we can. After so much shuffling and shaking by the other lot; sex-scandals, Peerages for Pounds and loss of trust on the one hand and, on the other the "Green Tories" whose principles now change even faster than did those of the Lib-Dems in the past.

Every one knows that New Labour is well past its sell-by date. The effects of devolutionary damage and Euro-Goldplating have yet to be fully felt. What then is the alternative? It should be the strong principled, ever reliant Tories. The trouble is, they in their mad-rush-fear to grab back the power they feel they have been denied for too long have tried to 'Out-Green' New Labour and 'Out-PC' the Liberals. As a result they are left with no principles, no firm policies and nobody really trusts them anymore. Their membership is falling; they only seem to have moaners rather than doers left within their local ranks.

What a sad state of affairs!

We English Democrats must double our efforts, stick to our ground and fight to get our message across. England is desperate to find honest politicians with common sense ideas who will rescue our country from this terrible mess.

I pray that the establishment and the media will stop being so obstructive and let our message through, before it is too late.

Asked by the press why I had moved to the English Democrats from the Conservatives, I said simply, The English Democrats believe in the common sense people of England and they believe in democracy. In greater depth, there is a well thought out manifesto and declaration of basic principles. This is not a single issue Party. The Party telephone is answered by an understanding and efficient voice. England needs this too. The English Democrats are just normal, sensible people wanting to represent the people of England, not for the sake of power for themselves, but for the sake of "Power for the People!".... The People of England.

Councillor Paul Rogan, Rastrick Ward, Calderdale Metro Borough Council Tory for 35 Years, now fighting for St George!

Mike Cassidy, Christine Constable, Paul Rogan, Robin Tilbrook, Paul McEnhill.

Ethnic or Civic Nationalism

Two sides of the same coin? - *editorial*

There has been so much hysteria about the advent of English nationalism it has been amusing to watch, funny no one batted an eyelid as Holyrood erected the preening symbol of Scotland's nationhood, which masquerades as the Scottish Parliament. No one stood in the way of the Welsh language and cultural explosion buoyed aloft by the creation of the Welsh Assembly. England's not unnatural wish to have a bite of the democracy cherry has been treated with incredulity by the stuffed shirts claiming to speak in the name of England at Westminster. More alarming is the apparent realization that England's disenchantment with the weak and vacillating politicians of the three major parties is heralding a new and challenging political force, which is set fair to undermine all three parties in future elections – all of a sudden it is the English Nationalists who are the *bete noire* of the political classes – not because nationalism is bad, but because English Nationalists represent a strong and growing stream of English resentment at being exploited, side-lined and ignored by those who laughably claim to represent us.

The three main parties love to point at the "divisiveness" of nationalism. It's all about creating an "us" and a "them", it's about division along racial lines, it's about xenophobia, it's about small mindedness. Let's examine these claims a little more closely.

What political party introduced "apartheid" into our society? Differentiated between races and religions to a degree never before experienced? What party introduced "positive" discrimination, laws which only apply to certain racially defined segments of the population? What political party fractured our communities along racial and religious fault lines, helped to fund a multitude of community initiatives pandering to every kind of ethnic minority that had the wherewithal to claim for money – and in so doing "tribalised" society and ghettoised large tracts of the inner cities into minority group "no go" areas, where the indigenous population became the minority and English, (despite being the national language) is rarely heard? Yes, you guessed it, New Labour and their apologists the Liberal Democrats, after every ethnic minority vote they can get and they truly believe discriminating against the English and undermining Englishness is the best and only way to do it. They would rather destroy the fabric of society and force the English to become a diaspora, finding refuge in Europe or the countryside. The Conservatives, without any kind of backbone, have simply sat back and watched it all happen, and their callous disregard for England, and their obsession with a Britain which no longer exists, makes them equally culpable. All three political parties are a disgrace to England and the English electorate and they know it, that is what they really fear.

English nationalism is about pride in our country, it's about wanting to protect our country and on a serious note it is about demanding that the indigenous society has the sole rights with respect to England. This is our home, this is our society and it has been shoddily treated and badly damaged by a grasping pseudo Labour party that has spent 10 years robbing us of our birthright.

The 7th of July bombers were the proof positive that "multiculturalism" is a disaster, and that what is badly needed is a strong national identity and basic ground rules everyone can live by. No boundaries, no vision for our society, no standards, no values and no pride is a recipe for national disaster and New Labour have been heading on that course for far too long. They have totally undermined what was left of the British identity, they have boosted Scottish, Welsh and Irish identity, but stubbornly refused to even acknowledge that the English have a right to be English, worse than that they even have the temerity to claim that England and the English do not exist.

English nationalism is not about excluding people, quite the reverse. English nationalists have a vision for our society (more than can be said of any of the three main parties). Our vision is a society united under a strong English national identity. An England where discrimination of all kinds is a thing of the past, an England where ethnic nationalists are given respect and English culture returns to its rightful place in schools, academia, literature and at the heart of our communities and celebrations. An English identity which combines both respect for the ethnic indigenous peoples of England and a warm welcome to those who have been marginalized and excluded because of religion, ethnicity and New Labour's divisive racial apartheid. A new sense of civic nationalism, in which those that have been born in England, but have hitherto been separated from us can cross the cultural divide and become full participants in English society, leaving behind forever their ethnic/religious pigeonhole. In the end Ethnic and Civic nationalism offers the same thing to all peoples, as two sides of the same coin it represents the ultimate solution to cultural alienation and the only practical prospect of peace within our society.

Ethnic nationalists have a right to have their birthright and nationality fully respected and protected. Civic nationalists have the right to join mainstream English society as our own. Through naturalization, birth and having loyalty to our country and by observing the values and culture of our country, new members earn the right to be accepted as Englishmen and women. This follows a well worn path of inward migration which has been charted over the centuries. Nationalism both civic and ethnic, together can be a force for good and represents an exciting opportunity and a fresh start for a forward looking nation. English Democrats embrace both nationalisms, because within both lie the key to our national salvation.

Cherie Pickin'
steveG

"As a human rights lawyer, I'm all for human rights...

...unless you're English,

obviously."

Bulletin board:

English Democrats AGM

30th September in Nottingham

Diary dates 2007

- 23rd April – St George's Day
- 1st May – March through Whitehall commemorating the 300th anniversary of the loss of our sovereign English Parliament.
- 3rd May – Local elections

- **Effecting change…**

In order to keep up the pressure on the Government, please keep writing to your MPs, local councillors and newspapers.

If you are writing to newspapers, why not try the internet version of them. You can comment on any of the day's stories – and your comment will be uploaded immediately. If you can mention the English Democrats and our website then so much the better. We have detailed all the internet addresses of the national dailies here – get complaining!

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/
http://www.guardian.co.uk/
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/
http://www.express.co.uk/
http://www.mirror.co.uk/
http://www.thesun.co.uk/
http:// www.dailystar.co.uk/
http://www.scotsman.com/

You can sign up free to the online versions of these 'papers – and they'll send you a bulletin front-page every day to peruse, read and comment on.

- **Caption competition winner –**

James Wilkes from Kent.
"Now that's another million votes you've lost us, Cherie"

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WE NEED YOU!

HOW TO BECOME AN ENGLISH DEMOCRATS' COUNCILLOR

By Steve Uncles

Are you interested in helping the English Democrats?
Do you ever wish you could influence the way things are done in your area? Have you ever thought about becoming a councillor?

What is a Councillor
A councillor is someone who is elected by local people to represent them on a council. In your area you can be elected to be a Parish, Borough or County Councillor. Councillors are elected for a four year term. If councillors are elected at a by-election, they will serve until the next scheduled elections take place.

So what do councillors do?
Each kind of council provides a different set of services to its local area. Councillors therefore usually need to attend formal meetings from time to time. All councillors also deal with the issues and problems brought to them by their constituents. They are also likely to spend time getting to know other organisations and services in their area, and may be appointed by their council as representatives on some of those local bodies.

How much time will it take?
It depends on how much time, effort and commitment individuals are able to give to the role. The minimum is likely to be the equivalent of one day per month although some councillors spend considerably more, especially if they have taken on leading roles.

Will I get paid?
You will not get a salary but you will be entitled to receive allowances. The Council also provides other kinds of support such as full training, supplies of stationery and business cards and access to IT equipment.

Do I get time off work?
This depends on your employer. Some employers are good at encouraging their employees to be councillors and do allow time off within reason. You should always discuss this with your employer before standing as a councillor.

So how do I become a councillor?
To become a councillor, you must stand for, and win, an election in one of the Boroughs wards.

If you wish to stand for election you must be:
A British Citizen, a citizen of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland or of another European Union State;
21 years of age; and included on the Register of Electors for the Borough or be someone who has either lived or worked in the county for the 12 months preceding the election.
You need to be nominated to stand as a candidate at the election by:
two electors of the electoral ward (as your proposer and seconder) and have eight other electors (supporting your nomination).

What to do next?
1 Make contact with the English Democrats Head Office, (or your local contact) letting us know that you plan to stand as a councilor.
2 Contact the Democracy or Elections department of your local council, let them know that you plan to stand as a councilor for the English Democrats, and ask them to send you an information pack.
3 Once you receive the information pack, then determine if your particular council is a 'single councillor system' or a 'multi-councillor system' (normal two or three councillors per ward.
4 Determine as soon as possible, where you plan to stand in a single ward, or target up to 3 wards if you wish to get others to stand.
5 Plan to get an 'introduction' leaflet (available from Head Office) out to your target area in January 2007 (by hand) – if you are targeting three wards, then this leaflet may well uncover some other candidates willing to stand for the English Democrats – a typical ward will take about 10 hours to leaflet – suggest 2 hours a night for a week or 1 hour per night for 2 weeks.
6 Your leafleting of the ward will probably result in about 5 phone calls from interested people.
7 If you get interest from other people, ask them if they will stand for the English Democrats in May 2007, in this way you will be able to cover several wards.
8 Inform the local paper that you intend to stand for the English Democrats in your ward.
9 Allocate time in April 2007 to put out 2 leaflet drops in your chosen ward.
10 At this stage in our party's development it is unlikely that you will get elected in a single councillor ward, however, if there is more than one councillor to be elected, with a determined approach, then success is possible.

What you will *not* have to do.
1 Make speeches
2 It is highly unlikely that you will receive any unwelcome approaches with regards to your campaign
3 Spend large sums of money, there is no deposit required – a contribution to party funds for the leaflets would be welcome.

Generally
The English Democrats party, will only grow if our members are willing to stand as candidates and allow voters to vote for the English Democrats party.

E-mail addresses

PARTY E MAIL CONTACT ADDRESSES:
London@EngDem.org
NorthEast@EngDem.org
Chairman@EngDem.org
NorthWest@EngDem.org
Vice-Chairman@EngDem.org
Yorkshire@EngDem.org
Policy@EngDem.org
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